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Above: University of New England undergraduate students stand on the floor of the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland Saturday, waiting for UNE's commencement ceremony to begin. Below: Commencement speaker Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt's granddaughter and president and CEO of Goodwill Industries Northern New England, waves to the crowd at the University of New England's commencement ceremony at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland Saturday.

'Never too old' YCCC names Dionne Student of the Year

By **ANGELO J. VERZONI**
Staff Writer

WELLS — David Dionne's advice for those who may be wary of attending college later in life is simple: "Do it. You're never too old."

The 48-year-old, who lives in Alfred, graduated from York County Community College Saturday with a degree in applied science and information technology.

Last month he was named YCCC's Student of the Year not only for his academic success but also for his campus and community involvement.

"It feels great," Dionne said Friday of graduating. "I'm on a high right now with the Student of the Year (award) and everything that's been going on. It's also kind of bittersweet. I'm going to be leaving a lot of friends I've made here, a lot of people I've helped out along

the way."

Dionne, who volunteered as a math tutor in his YCCC classes and serves on the Board of Directors for the York County Community Action Corporation in Sanford, said the honor is about "taking care of others, not just taking care of yourself."

"I'm looking out for myself. I'm trying to maintain my averages," he said. "But there are also other important things in life. ... You can help make somebody's day and make them smile. They think they're overwhelmed and (you can) show them it's not so bad."

Dionne graduated from Pembroke Academy in New Hampshire in 1984. Shortly after, he joined the U.S. Navy, where he served for 15 years, before becoming a

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'The world needs you'

SUBMITTED PHOTO



FDR's granddaughter dispenses advice at UNE graduation

By **ANGELO J. VERZONI**
Staff Writer

PORTLAND — Few seats were left empty at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland Saturday morning as the University of New England presented degrees to more than 1,400 graduates at its 180th commencement ceremony.

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, granddaughter of Franklin D. Roosevelt who serves as president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree before delivering the

commencement address. "The world needs you," she told the students. "The world needs your knowledge, your attitude toward learning, your curiosity, your energy, your commitment and your open heart."

Roosevelt urged the students to lead altruistic lives, connecting with others and the natural world in an "ecosystem of care and respect."

"For too long we, as Western thinkers, have siloed our perspectives," she said. "We've disengaged from the notion of being part of a whole system. ...

This world depends on each of us to solve problems in ways that don't threaten the Earth's resources."

This way of life, said Roosevelt, leads to true happiness.

"It forces us to think of others first, and then to be happily surprised by the personal benefits we derive along the way. ... Giving of ourselves makes us happier," she said. "Giving of ourselves leads to a happy life."

Roosevelt used the story of Goodwill Industries' founding as an example of "this kind of holistic thinking."

In the late 1800s, Roosevelt said Edgar Helms, a Methodist minister in South Boston, noticed many recent immigrants lacked food, clothing, employment and suitable housing — "the very stuff of dignity."

So, Helms set out to change that, and eventually Goodwill was born, she said. And today, the company — which operates 165 independent organizations throughout North America — continues to reduce waste, create jobs, and help fund health care and workforce

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Connors advocates for workforce training

By **TAMMY WELLS**
Senior Staff Writer

SANFORD — Maine Chamber of Commerce President Dana Connors, when speaking about education and the economy last week, recalled the words of former Governor Joseph Brennan.

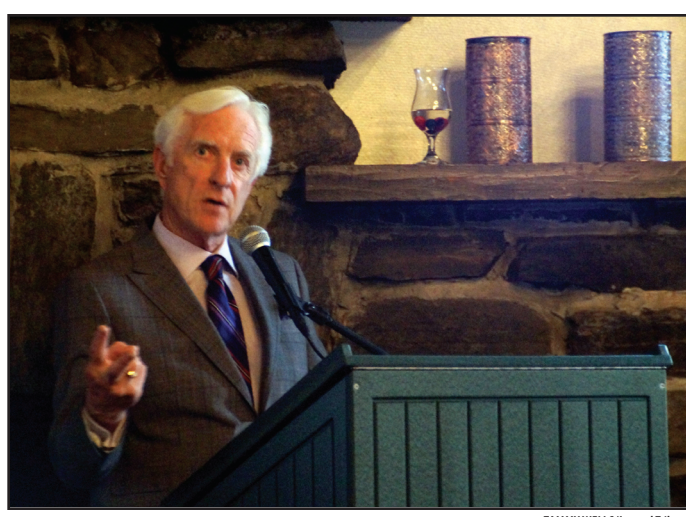
Connors, who was commissioner of transportation under Brennan, said his boss, a Democrat, used to put it this way: "The best

social program in the world is a job."

These days, getting a job isn't quite like it used to be, when, in many locations in Maine, someone graduated from high school on one day and walked into a well-paying job at the paper mill, or took their chances with the bounty from the sea aboard a lobster boat the next.

While lobstering remains

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Maine Chamber of Commerce President Dana Connors was the speaker at the Sanford Springvale Chamber of Commerce annual dinner Thursday at Sanford Country Club. Connors spoke to a full house of business leaders about the importance of providing Maine's industries with skilled workers. He said alignment of the business and education communities is starting to take place.

Obama bans some military-style equipment provided to police

By **NEDRA PICKLER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nine months after police in riot gear dispelled racially charged protests, President Barack Obama is prohibiting the federal government from providing some military-style equipment to local departments and putting stricter controls on other weapons and gear distributed to law enforcement.

The surprise announcement comes after the White

House suggested last year that Obama would maintain programs that provide the type of military-style equipment used to respond to demonstrators last summer in Ferguson, Missouri, because of their broader contribution to public safety. But an interagency group found "substantial risk of misusing or over-using" items like tracked armored vehicles, high-powered firearms and cam-

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A week after crash, Amtrak trains rolling on busy Northeast Corridor

By **MICHAEL SISAK**
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Amtrak trains began rolling on the busy Northeast Corridor early Monday, the first time in almost a week following a deadly crash in Philadelphia, and officials vowed to have safer trains and tracks while investigators worked to determine the cause of the derailment.

Amtrak resumed service along the corridor with a 5:30 a.m. southbound train leaving New York

City. The first northbound train, scheduled to leave Philadelphia at 5:53 a.m., was delayed and pulled out of 30th Street Station at 6:07 a.m.

About three dozen passengers boarded the New York City-bound train in Philadelphia, and Mayor Michael Nutter was on hand to see the passengers and train off.

All Acela Express, Northeast Regional and other services were to also resume.

Amtrak officials said Sunday that trains along the Northeast Corridor from Washington to Boston would resume service in "complete compliance" with federal safety orders following last week's deadly derailment.

Company President Joseph Boardman said Amtrak staff and crew have been working around the clock to restore service following Tuesday night's crash that killed eight people and injured more than 200 others.

Boardman said Sunday that Amtrak would be offering a "safer service."

In Philadelphia on Monday, Nutter stood on the platform, greeting passengers and crew members. He pulled out his cellphone and took pictures as the train rolled out just after 6 a.m.

"It's great to be back," said Christian Milton of Philadelphia. "I've never had any real problems with Amtrak. I've been traveling it for over 10 years. There's one accident in 10 years.

Something invariably is going to happen somewhere along the lines. I'm not worried about it."

Milton said he'd probably be sleeping as the train goes around the curve where the derailment happened. But, he said he'll think about victims.

"I might say a prayer for the people who died and got injured," he said.

Tom Carberry, of

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Missing woman still sought

From Staff Reports

OGUNQUIT — Police are asking the community's help in locating a missing woman.

Ogunquit Police reported that Kristen Daigle, 43, was reported missing this past weekend by friends.

She was last seen in the area of the Wells town line

on Route 1, according to police. She is approximately 5 feet 9 inches tall and was last seen wearing a navy blue zip-up hooded sweatshirt, dark pants and flip flops, according to police.

Police are asking those with any information on her whereabouts to call 646-9361 or 911.

Student of the Year

FROM PAGE A1

heavy equipment operator in San Diego. He got married and had three children, who are now 28, 26 and 24.

But after a while, his life began to go downhill. The economic downturn forced him out of a job, and he got divorced. So, after spending about 20 years in California, he decided to move to Maine. He knew the area after having lived for a few years in Sanford as a boy.

"Life was going in bad ways, and I had to get out of the rut, so I came here to get out of the rut," he said.

In Maine, Dionne said he wanted to strengthen his resume, and it was in 2012 that an employee of the York County Career Center in Springvale realized he was a military veteran and turned him on to the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program, or VRAP – a federal program designed to assist veterans in acquiring education and employment.

After spending a short time researching colleges, he settled on YCCC, and from there, it wasn't long before he was hitting the books.

"I came here on the Friday before Labor Day in 2012, took the Accuplacer (entrance exam), passed, got accepted and started school that week," said Dionne. "I call it my whirlwind day."

He remembers going to student orientation the same night he got accepted and

then going home and thinking, "What did I just do?"

"I was the oldest person in the orientation," he said. "Everybody was younger, and the only older people that were there were the parents of the kids coming here, and I was like, 'Wow.'"

Enrolling as an older student, Dionne said he felt nervous. "I looked like a deer in the headlights," he said.

But that feeling faded rather quickly, and by now the idea of feeling like an outcast couldn't be more foreign to him. "I know everybody," he said with a chuckle.

Even during a half-hour interview in a cafeteria on the college's Wells campus, Dionne, who has thick, dark hair and a characteristically wide smile, couldn't keep from chatting with a few passersby.

As for what the future holds for the new college graduate, Dionne said he would like to get a job in the IT department at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, before eventually returning to southern California to be with his children.

More school might be in his future, too, as he would like to earn his bachelor's and possibly even his master's degree.

"It's very fulfilling, even later in life," he said of a college education.

— Staff Writer Angelo J. Verzoni can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 329 or averzoni@journaltribune.com.

Municipal Meetings Calendar

By TAMMY WELLS

Senior Staff Writer

Here is a list of regularly scheduled upcoming meetings, as well as schedules, for area councils, boards of selectmen and school boards. Meetings are public.

Acton: Selectmen meet 7 p.m., 2nd and 4th Thursday, Town Hall, 35 H Road; next meeting May 28. School board 6 p.m., 2nd Tuesday, school library, 700 Milton Mills Road; next meeting June 9.

Alfred: Selectmen meet Tuesdays at Town Hall, 16 Saco Road; next meeting 3:30 p.m., May 19. RSU 57 school board, 2nd and 4th Wednesday; District Budget Meeting 7 p.m. May 19, Massabesic High School cafeteria, West Road, Waterboro. Next regular meeting 6 p.m., May 27, Massabesic East building, West Road, Waterboro.

Arundel: Selectmen meet 2nd and 4th Monday, M. L. Day School, 600 Limerick Road; next meeting 7 p.m., May 25. RSU 21 meets 7 p.m., 1st and 3rd Monday at Kennebunk Elementary School, 177 Alewife Road, Kennebunk; next meeting tonight, May 18.

Biddeford: City Council meets 7 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesday, City Hall, 205 Main St.; next meeting May 19, general meeting with council and citizens, 5 p.m., regular session, 7 p.m., Biddeford School Committee 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Biddeford High School; next meeting May 26.

Dayton: Selectmen meet at 6 p.m. every other Monday at Dayton Municipal Building, 33 Clark's Mills Road; next meeting June 1. School Committee, 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., Dayton Consolidated School, 21 Clarks Mills Road; next meeting May 20.

Kennebunk: Selectmen meet 6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Town Hall, 1 Summer St.; next meeting May 26. For RSU 21, see Arundel for meeting information.

Kennebunkport: Selectmen meet at 6 p.m., 2nd and 4th Thursday, Village Fire Hall, 32 North St.; next meeting May 28. For RSU 21, see Arundel.

Limerick: Selectmen

meet 7 p.m., 1st, 3rd and 4th Monday, Brick Town Hall, Main Street; next meeting tonight, May 18. For RSU 57, see Alfred.

Lyman: Selectmen meet 7 p.m., 1st and 3rd Monday, Town Hall, 11 South Waterboro Road; next meeting tonight, May 18. For RSU 57, see Alfred.

Newfield: Selectmen meet Tuesdays, 6 p.m., Public Safety Building, Route 11; next meeting tonight, May 18. For RSU 57, see Alfred.

Old Orchard Beach: Town Council meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 Portland Ave.; next meeting May 19. RSU 23 School Board meets 6 p.m., 2nd Tuesday at Town Hall; next meeting June 9.

Saco: City Council meets 1st and 3rd Monday at City Hall, 300 Main St.; next meeting tonight, May 18. Saco School Board meets 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday, City Hall; next meeting May 27.

Sanford: City Council meets at 7 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesday at City Hall, 919 Main St.; next meeting May 19. Sanford School Committee meets 1st and 3rd Monday at 6 p.m. at City Hall; next meeting tonight, May 18.

Shapleigh: Selectmen meet 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Town Hall, 22 Back Road; next meeting May 19. For RSU 57, see Alfred.

Waterboro: Selectmen meet 6 p.m., 2nd and 4th Tuesday, Town Hall, 24 Townhouse Road; next meeting, May 26. For RSU 57, see Alfred.

Wells: Selectmen meet 7 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesday, Town Hall, 208 Sanford Road; next meeting May 19. Wells-Ogunquit CSD School Committee meets 6:30 p.m., 1st and 3rd Monday, Superintendent's Office, 1460 Post Road; next meeting tonight, May 18.

York County Commissioners: Meet at 4:30 p.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the county government building (former jail), 149 Jordan Springs Road, Alfred; next meeting May 20.

— Senior Staff Writer Tammy Wells can be contacted at 324-4444 (local call in Sanford) or 282-1535, ext. 327 or twells@journaltribune.com.



ANGELO J. VERZONI/Journal Tribune

University of New England President Danielle Ripich speaks to the crowd at UNE's commencement ceremony at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland Saturday.

UNE Graduation

FROM PAGE A1

services in our region, said Roosevelt.

Michael McCarthy, principal of Portland's King Middle School, also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the ceremony.

UNE President Danielle Ripich told McCarthy, "You have been a lifelong champion for students and innovation in education," transforming an underperforming school into a pillar of the Portland community and an international model of success.

Ripich, who took the helm as UNE's president in 2006, also spoke directly to the students Saturday, delivering a message similar to Roosevelt's.

"Though it may be easy at times and even convenient to think of yourself as a private individual ... you do lead a public life," said Ripich, who often refers to UNE as "a private university with a very public mission."

"Find a way to merge your personal expertise,

education, ambition and the capacity you possess to brighten the lives of others," she went on. "Strive not only to do well but to do good."

After the ceremony, the newly minted alumna filtered onto Spring Street, where their families and friends were waiting with open arms, flashing cameras and colorful bouquets of flowers.

"It feels like a big relief," Taylor Watts, who studied psychology, said of graduating. "I'm just really excited."

Watts, of Tenants Harbor, said she wants to take a year off before applying for a master's or doctoral degree program.

"It's definitely a big step. It's awesome to get ready for the real world, but at the same time it's pretty scary. ... I loved UNE," said Alec Parenteau, of Dayton, who studied medical biology.

Massachusetts native Rachel Russell, who studied animal behavior, said, "I still can't believe it. It's kind of crazy."

— Staff Writer Angelo J. Verzoni can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 329 or averzoni@journaltribune.com.

Briefly

Gas prices go up slightly in Maine over last week

PORTLAND (AP) — Gas prices have risen nearly a penny in Maine in the past week.

Gasoline price-monitoring website GasBuddy.com reports Monday that the average cost of a gallon of gas in Maine is \$2.65.

Maine gas prices are 21.1 cents per gallon higher compared to a month ago, and about \$1.02 lower per gallon than at this time last year.

The price per gallon in Maine is 6 cents lower than the national average.

The Maine price is based

on a survey of more than 1,200 gas stations

DEP gets money for pump-out stations

PORTLAND (AP) — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is providing a \$356,000 grant to Maine under the Clean Vessel Act.

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection plans to use money to install or upgrade pump-out stations and to subsidize pump-out vessels and facilities.

U.S. Rep. Bruce Poliquin says the grants will help to keep Maine's coastal waters "crystal clear" for Mainers and visitors alike.

City of Biddeford

General Meeting of City Council and Citizens

Tuesday, May 19th, 2015
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers – 2nd floor of City Hall

In accordance with the *City Charter, Article XII, Section 4. General meetings of citizens*, a group of citizens has submitted a petition with enough signatures for a General Meeting to be scheduled with the City Council and the citizens.

This meeting has been set for Tuesday, May 19th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The regularly scheduled Council Meeting will commence after the General Meeting, at 7:00 p.m.

John Alfano, who works as a mediator, will facilitate the General Meeting.



CITY OF BIDDEFORD

SCHOOL BUDGET VALIDATION SPECIAL REFERENDUM ELECTION

THE SCHOOL BUDGET VALIDATION SPECIAL REFERENDUM ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 11th, 2015.

ALL ELECTION DAY VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT BIDDEFORD HIGH SCHOOL, TIGER GYM ON MAPLEWOOD AVENUE. THE POLLING PLACE WILL BE OPEN FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

YOU MAY REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY CALLING THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 284-9307.

Have you seen our **FOOD SECTION?**

• WHERE TO DINE

• RECIPES

• HELPFUL TIPS

Look for it every **Saturday** in the **Journal Tribune Weekend!**



JOURNAL TRIBUNE WEEKEND